

Cell Phone Use While Driving - Laws by State

STATE	BANNED	NOTES
Alabama	No	
Alaska	No	
Arkansas	Partial	School bus drivers are banned
Arizona	Partial	A bill to introduce a ban was lost by a 4-3 vote in the Senate Transportation Committee; Bus drivers are banned
California	Yes	Effective July 1, 2008, SB1613 requires motorists to use a hands-free device when using a cell phone while driving; \$20 fine for a first offense, \$50 for subsequent offenses.
Colorado	No	Teens with restricted licenses are banned - but can only be stopped for another violation first
Connecticut	Yes	Banned with effect from Oct. 2005 - teens are also forbidden from using hands-free kits while moving
Delaware	No	A driver can already be prosecuted for "inattentive driving," which can include using a cell phone; Studies into the issue have been requested
District of Columbia	Yes	Banned from July 2004
Florida	Partial	In July 2001, State Attorney General said that cities can set local regulations; Overturned by Governor Bush
Georgia	Partial	School bus drivers banned from using cell phones while driving. DeKalb County has fines when crashes can be attributed to driving while using a cell phone.
Hawaii	In debate	A bill introduced by Sen. Joseph Souki being debated
Idaho	No	
Illinois	Partial	School bus drivers are banned; Chicago has bill banning driving while using a phone, fines from \$50 per infraction
Indiana	No	Ban proposed January 2004 by Sen. Rose Antich Carr
Iowa	In debate	
Kansas	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in 2000
Kentucky	No	
Louisiana	In debate	The following bills have been passed: SB 137 - prohibits text messaging by all drivers and the

		use of cell phones by novice drivers. SB 159 – bill prohibits minors from using any wireless telecommunications device while operating a motor vehicle. SB 342 – prohibits certain drivers from operating a motor vehicle while using a cellular telephone.
Maine	Partial	Minors and those on learner driving licenses may not use a cell phone while driving
Maryland	No	Bill to ban dropped February 2001; New proposal in the House, proposed by Delegates Arnick and Mandel
Massachusetts	Partial	Bill for most users pending but bus drivers already banned; Drivers required to keep at least one hand on the steering wheel while holding a phone
Michigan	No	
Minnesota	Partial	Teenagers and provisional drivers are banned; \$100 fine plus delays in license upgrades for offenders
Mississippi	No	Legislation prevents local councils enacting their own ban
Missouri	No	
Montana	No	
Nebraska	No	Bill planned by State Sen. Jim Cudaback, January 2004
Nevada	No	State bill to introduce ban failed April 1999; Local bill in Clark County blocked Nov. 2001; Passed state bill banning local regulations in March 2003
New Hampshire	Partial	Not explicitly banned, but you can be prosecuted if using a cell phone when involved in an driving accident
New Jersey	Yes	Banned from July 2004; updated from March 2008 - fines up to \$100
New Mexico	Partial	Being debated - local ban in the city of Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Taos
New York	Yes	Ban in effective since November 2001
North Carolina	In debate	Study into the effects of cell phone usage while driving being carried out
North Dakota	In debate	Bill proposed by Sen. Harvey Tallackson, D-Grafton, February 2005
Ohio	Partial	City of Cleveland is discussing a ban; Ban in place in Brooklyn
Oklahoma	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in May 1999; Legislation prevents local councils enacting their own ban
Oregon	No	A bill enacted in January 2002 forbids local governments

		from implementing their own cell phone ban
Pennsylvania	Partial	Local cities have their own laws; state legislation pending
Rhode Island	Partial	School bus drivers are banned; Proposal for a ban being debated April 2004
South Carolina	Partial	Bill to ban holders of a beginner's permit, conditional or special restricted driver's license passed by House committee, April 2008
South Dakota	No	
Tennessee	Partial	School buses are banned from using a cell phone
Texas	No	Senate bill 154 proposed – if passed, would come into effect in 2008. Previous attempt in 2005 failed.
Utah	No	Bill to introduce ban failed March 1998; Highland city planning a ban - Feb 2005
Vermont	No	
Virginia	Partial	Bill banning minors passed January 2005; Bill banning 16-17 year olds with conditional licenses passed March 2007.
Washington	Pending	Ban imposed, to come into effect from July 2008. Driving while sending text messages separately banned in effect January 1, 2008.
West Virginia	No	Bill proposed in 1999 but never debated
Wisconsin	No	Bill to introduce ban failed in April 1998; Bill to ban younger drivers only being debated
Wyoming	No	Bill proposed by Rep. Floyd Esquibel but not debated

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